

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 /116 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:GTAFT/AD
APPROVED BY D/LOS:GTAFT
L/OES:TLEITZEL
OES/OFA/OCA:MBUSBY
AF/I:GSHIRTLEFF/EESVENDSEN
INR/RGE:RHODGSON
DOD:COL.FFEDELE

-----101846Z 109309 /53

R 101620Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
INFO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, LI

SUBJECT: LOS: LIBERIAN EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL SEA TO 200
MILES

REF: A. MONROVIA 190 B. MONROVIA 251

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO RAISE AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL
POINTS PARA 2 IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT GOL DECLARATION OF
A 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA, IN ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE GOL TO
RESCIND OR SIGNIFICANTLY MODIFY ITS DECLARATION. DEPARTMENT
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IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED WITH DECLARATION, WOULD LIKE TO MAKE
CLEAR THAT IT IS CONTRARY TO MUTUAL INTERESTS AND HOPES GOL
WILL AMEND OR RESCIND IT. WE ARE NOT MAKING A FORMAL PRO-
TEST OF GOL ACTION AT THIS TIME. WITH REGARD TO THE LOS
NEGOTIATIONS, WE BELIEVE THERE IS NO RPT NO POSSIBILITY OF
WIDESPREAD AGREEMENT ON A TERRITORIAL SEA GREATER IN BREADTH
THAN 12 MILES. WE HOPE THAT THE GOL DECLARATION DOES NOT

CREATE AN OBSTACLE TO ITS ACCEPTANCE OF BROAD CONSENSUS ON 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AT THE CONFERENCE. WHILE US AND A NUMBER OF OTHER NATIONS HAVE EXTENDED OR INTEND IN NEAR FUTURE TO EXTEND JURISDICTION TO 200 MILES FOR FISHERIES PURPOSES, VERY FEW NATIONS HAVE CLAIMED 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS. IT IS CLEAR THAT 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA CLAIMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED OR OBSERVED BY US.

2.--THE US AND LIBERIA HAVE COOPERATED ON A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE LAW OF THE SEA. WE BELIEVE THAT LIBERIA SHARES OUR VIEW OF THE DESIRABILITY OF ATTAINING A WIDELY-ACCEPTABLE LOS TREATY.

--WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY THE GOL'S RECENT DECLARATION TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL SEA FROM 12 TO 200 NAUTICAL MILES. AT THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE THERE IS BROAD AGREEMENT ON A 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE.

--IF THE GOL IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH PROTECTION OF LIVING RESOURCES OFFSHORE (PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF A LOS TREATY), WE BELIEVE THAT A LIMITED FUNCTIONAL APPROACH IS MORE APPROPRIATE. WE NOTE IN THIS REGARD THAT THE GOL HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED A 200-MILE FISHERIES ZONE. WE BELIEVE THAT WITHIN SUCH A ZONE, A STATE MAY EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION OVER COASTAL SPECIES OF FISH.

--THE USG DOES NOT OBSERVE 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA CLAIMS.
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--WE BELIEVE THAT LIBERIA SHARES OUR INTEREST IN FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION ON THE BROADEST EXPANSE OF HIGH SEAS INCLUDING THE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE LOS TREATY.

--WE HOPE THAT THE GOL WILL AMEND OR RESCIND ITS DECLARATION.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: GTAFT/AD
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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